Senate District Q Senator

John D. Bennett, Nonpartisan



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AGE: 67

PLACE OF BIRTH: Washington, DC

SPOUSE'S NAME: Deborah

CHILDREN'S NAMES: Kate, Jack

LENGTH OF RESIDENCY IN ALASKA: 48 years

ALASKAN COMMUNITIES LIVED IN:

Fairbanks 1974 - Present

EDUCATION:

A.A. Science 1982 B.S. Geology 1988

SPECIAL INTERESTS:

hunter, fisherman, triathlete, cyclist, skier bowling, softball, hockey, disc golf, pickleball

I am an Army brat who moved to Alaska in 1974. I am an Alaskan who has lived the Alaskan lifestyle to the fullest. I have built cabins, mushed dogs, trapped, had to chip ice to get my water, and cut and split countless cords of wood. I have been to dozens of villages and most towns along the road system. I spent a decade working winters on the slope, and almost another decade fishing in Bristol Bay. I sport fish and dip net, hunt caribou and moose. I have found that I have something in common with most people in this district.

I am "good people", a family man, honest and hardworking. Like many Alaskans, I am a character, with character.

STATEMENT:

I worked on the pipeline and retired from Laborer's 942. I also worked as an emergency firefighter, drove cab, owned a set net permit and a bar, and worked in canneries. After receiving a quality education at UAF, I worked as a geologist, and then 28 years with DOT as an engineering geologist, and hydrologist. I understand how government works, and my broad work and life experience will be invaluable in Juneau.

I believe in working people. I have helped organize workers and negotiated contracts, so I know how to communicate and compromise.

Alaska needs a sustainable formula for Permanent Fund withdrawals, responsible resource development, an end to corporate subsidies, to expand and maintain its infrastructure, and make long-term commitments to educating and training Alaskans. District Q needs someone to also address the Manh Choh mine ore haul, groundwater contamination, and high energy costs.

We must define real priorities in Juneau, by making the budget the first order of business. Alaskans need an economy with a long-term plan that stabilizes the wild swings in revenue of an oil dependent government.

We keep sending the same people to Juneau and expect a different outcome. Our current elected officials have allowed partisan issues to divide us, which prevents real cooperation in addressing Alaska's problems. Our greatest challenge is that we are competing instead of communicating, and everyone loses.

We need to help all of our residents understand current issues and how they will be impacted by the choices made in Juneau.

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